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7 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
8 WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON  
AT SEATTLE

9 PATSY D. CORMIER, *et al.*,

10 Plaintiffs,

11 v.

12 UNIVERSAL BANK, N.A., *et al.*,

13 Defendants.  
14

Case No. C04-2536L

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE

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16 This matter comes before the Court *sua sponte*. Plaintiff Patsy Cormier, who is  
17 proceeding *pro se*, has filed her complaint on behalf of herself and “all others similarly situated”  
18 against various defendants. Plaintiffs allege that Snohomish County Superior Court Judge  
19 Thomas Wynne and retired Snohomish County Superior Court Judge Joseph Thibodeau aided  
20 and abetted the other defendants in a fraud scheme that violated the Racketeer Influence and  
21 Corrupt Organization Act, 18 U.S.C. §§ 1961-1962 (“RICO”). A review of the filings in this  
22 and related cases shows that Judge Wynne approved a writ of garnishment regarding Discover  
23 Bank’s efforts to collect on plaintiffs’ credit card debt. The complaint states that defendant  
24 Doug Brown “secured Thibodeau’s sworn agreement to aide and abet in the defrauding of Patsy  
25 D. Cormier.” Complaint at p. 6.

26 On September 15, 2005, the Court granted Judge Wynne’s motion for summary judgment  
27 in the related case C04-2537L (W.D. Wash. 2004) (Dkt. #75). That case was filed by Patsy and

1 Lowell Cormier. The Court found that Judge Wynne was entitled to judicial immunity because  
2 he approved the writ in his official capacity. See, e.g., Ashelman v. Pope, 793 F.2d 1072, 1075  
3 (9th Cir. 1986) (explaining that judges are “absolutely immune” from damage liability for acts  
4 performed in their official capacities). Plaintiffs did not dispute the application of immunity or  
5 provide any evidence to undermine it. Ms. Cormier makes virtually identical claims against  
6 Judge Wynne and retired Judge Thibodeau in this case.

7 Accordingly, plaintiffs are ordered to SHOW CAUSE, within fifteen days of the date of  
8 this order, why their complaint as to Judge Wynne and Judge Thibodeau should not be  
9 dismissed because the judges are entitled to judicial immunity as set forth in the Court’s order in  
10 C04-2537L (W.D. Wash. 2004) (Dkt. #75). The Clerk of the Court is directed to place this  
11 order to show cause on the Court’s calendar for October 7, 2005.

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13 DATED this 19th day of September, 2005.

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16 Robert S. Lasnik  
17 United States District Judge  
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